

Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 25, 2013

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The **Legislative Update** is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

First Regular Session of the 51st Legislature

Monday, January 28th marks the last day for House members to submit bill requests to the Legislative Council. Monday, February 4th marks the Senate bill introduction deadline. A link to the Senate *2013 Session Timeline* is posted [here](#).

Since last Friday, 431 floor actions have been filed; 26 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

All committee agendas (House, Senate, Joint Legislative Budget Committee or JLBC) are posted at this [link](#).

If you are new to the Arizona State Legislature's website, be sure to see the Frequently Asked Questions or **FAQs** [page](#).

Summary of actions

At the end of day 12, 711 bills posted and 32 memorials or resolutions posted. Some of these bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the **Legislative Update** web report page.

Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It **does** mean that the bill is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

FULL LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24960&listid=47124&print=true>

Note: The **FULL LIST web report** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills posted.** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the **Arizona Capitol Times**.

We will highlight some of the tracked legislation in the next issue of the **Legislative Update**.

Both the Senate and the House are adjourned at this time until Monday, January 28, 2013, 1:30 p.m.

If you want to learn more about the legislative process, information posted on the Arizona State Legislature website can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC)**

FY 2014 JLBC Baseline Summary

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/14baseline/fy14summary.pdf>

FY 2014 JLBC Baseline With Executive Budget Comparison:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/14baseline-approps-exec-comparison012213.pdf>

The JCLB - Monthly Fiscal Highlights January 2013 is linked [here](#).

According to that report, "Year-to-date, revenues are 3.6% higher than last year and are \$32.3 million above the budget forecast."

Tracking Arizona's Recovery January 2013 is provided [here](#).

Share your thoughts! If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, **you may voice your thoughts at any time** by contacting the:

· **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only)

· Or by **contacting your legislator from your area**; locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

· **District maps** can be found [here](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

H.R.25

Fair Tax Act of 2013

Introduced on 1/3/2013 by Representative Rob Woodall (GA-7)

Fair Tax Act of 2013 repeals the income tax, employment tax, and estate and gift tax. Redesignates the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as the Internal Revenue code of 2013.

Imposes a national sales tax on the use or consumption in the United States of taxable property or services. Sets the sales tax rate at 23% in 2015, with adjustments to the rate in subsequent years. Allows exemptions from the tax for property or services purchased for business, export, or investment purposes, and for state government functions.

Sets forth rules relating to:

- (1) the collection and remittance of the sales tax, and
- (2) credits and refunds.

Allows a monthly sales tax rebate for families meeting certain size and income requirements.

Grants states the primary authority for the collection of sales tax revenues and the remittance of such revenues to the Treasury. Sets forth administrative provisions relating to:

- (1) the filing of monthly reports and payments of tax;
- (2) accounting methods;
- (3) registration of sellers of goods and services responsible for reporting sales;
- (4) penalties for noncompliance; and
- (5) collections, appeals, and taxpayer rights.

Directs the Secretary of the Treasury to allocate sales tax revenues among:

- (1) the general revenue,
- (2) the old-age and survivors insurance trust fund,
- (3) the disability insurance trust fund,
- (4) the hospital insurance trust fund, and
- (5) the federal supplementary medical insurance trust fund.

On January 3, 2013, referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.149

Prioritize Spending Act of 2013

Introduced on 1/3/2013 by Representative Daniel Webster (FL-10)

Prioritize Spending Act of 2013

Requires amounts necessary for incurred federal obligations, in the event that the public debt reaches the statutory limit, to be made available to certain obligations, in prioritized order, before all other obligations.

Prioritizes such obligations in the following descending order:

- (1) amounts necessary to carry out the authority of the Department of the Treasury to pay with legal tender the principal and interest on public debt;
- (2) amounts determined by the Secretary of Defense (DOD) (and the Secretary of Homeland Security [DHS] in the case of the Coast Guard) to be necessary to continue to provide pay and allowances (without interruption) to members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, including their reserve components, who perform active service;
- (3) amounts certified to Congress by the President as necessary to carry out vital national security priorities;
- (4) amounts necessary to carry out the authority of the Commissioner of Social Security to pay monthly old-age, survivors', and disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (SSA); and
- (5) amounts necessary to make payments under the Medicare program under SSA title XVIII.

On 1/3/2013, referred to House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.155

Notch Fairness Act of 2013

Introduced on 1/4/2013 by Rep Mike McIntyre (NC-7)

Notch Fairness Act of 2013

Amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act to revise the formula for the computation of minimum Old Age Insurance benefits for individuals who reached age 65 in or after 1979, and to whom applies the 15-year transition period for the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977.

("Notch" refers to birth in the United States between 1917 and 1921, as a result of which a retiree born between those years received lower cost-of-living increases in Social Security than others after Congress readjusted Social Security benefits in 1977.)

Sets forth a schedule of additional benefit increases for such beneficiaries (and related beneficiaries), with percentages declining from 55% to 5% and keyed to the year an individual became eligible for such benefits between 1979 and 1988.

Allows such beneficiaries, in the alternative, to receive lump sum payments over four years totaling \$5,000.

On 1/4/2013, referred to House Committee on Ways and Means.

S.140

A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit to certain recently discharged veterans, to improve the coordination of veteran job training services between the Department of Labor,

the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Defense, to require transparency for Executive departments in meeting the Government-wide goals for contracting with small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 1/24/2013 by Senator Max Baucus (MT)

On 1/24/2013, referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

NOTE: If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

OTHER NEWS

Taken from the **Administration for Community Living**

Tuesday, January 22, 2013 ACL News & Info issue
"NIH-Supported Alzheimer's Studies to Focus on Innovative Treatments"

Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study Group will undertake four clinical trials over five years

With new research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the nation's premier Alzheimer's disease study network will undertake four major studies aimed at finding new treatments for the disease. The award supports the latest projects of the [Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study \(ADCS\)](#),

a national consortium of academic medical centers and clinics set up by NIH in 1991 to collaborate on the development of Alzheimer's treatments and diagnostic tools.

In this round of studies, the ADCS will test drug and exercise interventions in people in the early stages of the disease, examine a medication to reduce agitation in people with Alzheimer's dementia, and test a cutting-edge approach to speed testing of drugs in clinical trials.

[Click here](#) for more information and to read about the four studies made possible under the new award."

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease
The latest information can be found [here](#).

From **Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured**
Medicaid's Role in Meeting the Long-Term Care Needs of America's Seniors
Link: <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/upload/8403.pdf>

From the **National Council on Aging**
NCOA [Use Your Home to Stay at Home](#) the official reverse mortgage consumer booklet approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is provided [here](#).

From the **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**
healthfinder.gov offers resources and information on an array of topics for all ages.

Safety Tips for older adults can be found [here](#) and information on Doctor Visits is linked [here](#).

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

WHAT: Region IV Conference on Aging
WHEN: January 31, 2013, 7:30 am to 4:45 pm, Pivot Point Conference Center, 200 N. Madison Avenue, Yuma, AZ 85364

More information is provided at this [link](#).

WHAT: Alzheimer's Association Green Valley Education Conference

WHEN: February 14, 2013, 8:30 am to 11:30 am, West Social Center, 1111 Via Arco Iris, Green Valley

More information is provided at this [link](#).

WHAT: 2nd Annual African-American Conference on Disabilities
WHEN: March 1, 2013, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, Coast Phoenix Sky Harbor Hotel, 4300 E. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85034

For more information, go to this [link](#).

WHAT: 19th Mayor's Alzheimer's Education Conference
WHEN: Wednesday, March 13, 2013, Tucson Jewish Community Center, 3800 East River Road, Tucson, AZ 85718

More information is provided [here](#).

WHAT: 25th Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference
Celebrating 25 Years of the Arizona Indian Council on Aging
WHEN: April 15-18, 2013, Talking Stick Resort, 9800 E. Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256

More information is provided [here](#).

UA College of Medicine Phoenix events are posted [here](#).

Just in case you're interested
Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

Enjoy your weekend!
~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging